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PRAYERS

FOR

THE USE OF

FAMILIES.

By WILLIAM ENFIELD.

There was a certain man in Cæsarea, *called* Cornelius --- *a devout man, and one that feared* GOD *with all his house --- and prayed to* GOD *alway.*

ACTS.

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PREFACE.

THE reaſonableneſs and utility of Family-devotion are ſo evident, that the deſign of this work cannot need any apology. In the execution of it, the author has made it his firſt object, to expreſs the moſt obvious and important ſentiments in the moſt plain and ſimple language. All novelty and refinement of thought he has carefully avoided, as foreign to the nature of religious worſhip, and inconſiſtent with his principal deſign. Nor has he attempted a pointed, rhetorical, or figurative ſtile; for it appears to him, that, however ſuited ſuch a ſtile may be to didactic diſcourſe, it is improper in offices of devotion, and peculiarly ſo in prayers deſigned for the uſe of families: beſides, he apprehends, that, without the utmoſt ſimplicity of expreſſion, the frequent repetition of the ſame form of words muſt unavoidably become diſagreeable and tireſome.

The Critic and Philoſopher, as ſuch, muſt not, therefore, expect entertainment from this work, which is deſigned for common uſe, and intended to ſuit the underſtandings, and impreſs the hearts of mankind in general. If the judicious reader can peruſe theſe forms of devotion without diſapprobation, and if the pious chriſtian can make uſe of them with pleaſure and advantage, the author's utmoſt ambition will be gratified.

He has only to add, that he acknowledges himſelf indebted to the holy Scriptures, and other devotional writings, for a great part of the materials from which this work is compoſed; and that he imagines he ſhall not be cenſured, for not having preſumed, in ſuch an undertaking as this, to truſt entirely to his own abilities.

PRAYER

PRAYER

FOR

SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the father of our ſpirits, and the fountain of all good; who haſt made us capable of lifting up our ſouls unto thee, and haſt taught us that the prayer of the upright is thy delight; we thy ſervants deſire, at this time, to worſhip and bow down before thee, the LORD our Maker, with joyful and thankful hearts. We will ſerve thee, O LORD, with gladneſs; and will come into thy preſence with thankſgiving.

We worſhip thee, who art good unto all, and whoſe tender mercies are over all thy works. All creatures wait upon thee, and thou giveſt them their meat in due ſeaſon: thou openeſt thy hand, and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing.

Thou cauſeſt graſs to grow for the cattle, and herb for the ſervice of man: thou giveſt food unto all fleſh; and the earth is ſatisfied with the fruit of thy works. O LORD our GOD, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

We praiſe thee, the Creator and Preſerver of men. In thee, O GOD, we live, and move, and have our being. The wonders of our frame are the work of thy hands; and the powers of our minds are the gifts of thy goodneſs. We are thine offspring; we will praiſe thee for ever.

Through the care of thy providence we continue unto this day. It is of thy mercies that we are not conſumed; it is becauſe thy compaſſions fail not: they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulneſs. We have ſlept in ſafety, and are riſen in peace; for thou haſt ſuſtained us. We rejoice in thy providence; and give thanks unto thee with our whole hearts.

In a more eſpecial manner, we bleſs thee, that thou haſt ſtill continued unto us the means of religion; and doſt, from time

time to time, permit us to unite with our brethren in the public ſervices of thy houſe. We eſteem it good for us to draw near unto thee; and we deſire, this day, to ſerve thee with reverence and godly fear. May we worſhip thee, who art a ſpirit, in ſpirit and in truth. May we ſhew forth thy praiſe, and acknowledge thy mercies, with thankfulneſs and joy. May we confeſs our ſins with unfeigned ſorrow, and ſteadfaſt purpoſes of amendment. May we offer up our ſupplications unto thee, with a humble confidence in thy wiſdom and goodneſs, and with perfect charity towards all mankind. May we receive inſtruction with meekneſs; lay it up in our hearts, and bring forth the fruits of righteouſneſs in our lives. And may we ſo attend upon all the means of religion, that we may be eſtabliſhed in thy fear, and confirmed in all goodneſs, and that we may, finally, attain everlaſting perfection and happineſs, in thy heavenly kingdom, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive

Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for SUNDAY Evening.

O Almighty and moſt merciful GOD; with whom is the fountain of life, and from whom cometh every good and every perfect gift; we thy ſervants call upon our ſouls, and all that is within us, to bleſs thy name for all thy mercies.

We preſent unto thee our united thanks for the gift of life; for the wiſe and uſeful frame of our bodies; and for all the powers of our minds. We praiſe thee, for our continual preſervation, and for all the bounties of thy providence. We thank thee, for our daily bread; for the raiment with which we are cloathed; for healthful and fruitful ſeaſons; and for all the ſupports and comforts of life. We aſcribe to thy wiſe and good providence the ſucceſs

ceſs which hath attended our lawful undertakings; the advantages and pleaſures of ſociety and friendſhip; and the bleſſings of civil government. We thank thee for our moral and religious privileges; for the benefit of wiſe inſtructions, and good examples; for the appointment of public worſhip; and particularly, for the opportunity, which thou haſt this day afforded us, of calling upon thy name, and hearing thy word. Above all, we thank thee, that thou haſt been graciouſly pleaſed to ſend thy Son JESUS CHRIST into the world, that he might inſtruct us in the knowledge of thy will; guide our feet into the way of peace; and fill us with the joyful hope of everlaſting life.

O GOD of mercy, who can declare thy mighty acts? who can ſhew forth all thy praiſe? If we would ſpeak of thy mercies, they are more than can be numbered. We will give thanks unto thee as long as we live; every day will we bleſs thee; and we will praiſe thy name for ever and ever.

But, while we acknowledge thy mercies with unfeigned thankfulneſs, it becometh

cometh us to confeſs, with humble and penitent hearts, that we have ſinned againſt thee. We have diſregarded thine authority, and offended againſt thy goodneſs. We ſincerely lament our paſt ingratitude and diſobedience. We deſire to forſake every evil way, and to return unto thee with our whole hearts: and we humbly truſt in thy mercy, declared unto us by JESUS CHRIST our Lord, for the pardon of all our offences.

May our penitent acknowledgments of our paſt tranſgreſſions effectually reſtrain us from returning again unto folly: and may all our devotions produce in us the fruits of good-living, to the honour of thy name; that, continually advancing in our likeneſs unto thee, the great object of our worſhip, we may, at length, be trained up to dwell with thee for ever, in thine heavenly kingdom.

We chearfully commit ourſelves, and all our concerns, to the care of thy providence, through this night, and the remaining part of our lives. Behold thy ſervants, O GOD; do with us what ſeemeth good in thy ſight. Not our will, but thine

thine, be done. We truſt in thy wiſdom and goodneſs, that thou wilt feed us with food convenient for us; and we deſire, in whatſoever ſtate we are, therewith to be content. In proſperity, may we be humble and thankful; and may we manifeſt our ſenſe of thy goodneſs, by being always ready to ſhew kindneſs to our brethren. If affliction and trouble come upon us, may we neither deſpiſe thy chaſtening, nor faint when we are rebuked of thee: in the time of our tribulation, may we caſt all our care upon thee, and poſſeſs our ſouls in patience. When thou ſhalt call us out of this life, may we leave the world in peace; and, after death, grant, merciful Father, that we may be numbered with thy ſaints in glory everlaſting.

O GOD, the Father of the families of the whole earth; we deſire to manifeſt our good-will towards all our fellow-creatures, by preſenting unto thee our humble interceſſions on their behalf. May all tyranny and oppreſſion, ſuperſtition and idolatry, come to an end. May the bleſſings of wiſe and equal government be every where enjoyed: and may uſeful knowledge

ledge and pure religion enlighten and bleſs the world.

We beſeech thee mercifully to regard theſe kingdoms of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, and all our colonies and provinces. May injuſtice, profaneneſs, and all immorality be ſuppreſſed; and may righteouſneſs and charity abound more and more, in the midſt of us. May thy ſervant GEORGE, our King, our gracious Queen CHARLOTTE, and all the Royal Family, long live in peace and happineſs on earth, and be crowned with immortal life and glory in the kingdom of heaven. May our judges and magiſtrates be wiſe and faithful in the diſcharge of their duty; and exerciſe their authority for the diſcouragement of vice, and the protection of thoſe who are good. May all chriſtian miniſters be enlightened with the knowledge of thy truth, and filled with unfeigned good-will towards mankind; that they may adorn their profeſſion, and be uſeful to the world.

May it pleaſe thee, to ſuccour and comfort all thoſe who are in danger, neceſſity and tribulation; to preſerve thoſe who

who are travelling by land or water; to ſatisfy the poor with bread; to defend and provide for the fatherleſs and widows, and all who are deſolate and oppreſſed; and to bleſs our friends, reward our benefactors, and forgive our enemies. Finally, we beſeech thee to ſhew mercy unto all men; according to thine infinite goodneſs manifeſted to the world through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Now unto thee, the king eternal, immortal, inviſible, the only wiſe GOD, be honour and glory for ever. Amen.

Prayer for MONDAY Morning.

O Lord GOD Almighty, the maker and poſſeſſor of heaven and earth; we will praiſe thee with our whole hearts, and will ſhew forth thy wonderful works.

By thy word were the heavens made, and all the hoſt of them by the breath of thy mouth. Thou didſt ſay, Let there be light, and there was light. Thou haſt placed the ſun and moon in the heavens,

to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day, and over the night. The heavens declare thy glory, and the firmament ſheweth thine handy-work: day unto day uttereth ſpeech, and night unto night ſheweth knowledge: there is no ſpeech, nor language, where their voice is not heard. Thou makeſt the out-goings of the morning and evening to rejoice. Thou covereſt the heavens with clouds; and prepareſt the rain and the dew. Thou viſiteſt the earth, and watereſt it; thou makeſt it ſoft with ſhowers; thou bleſſeſt the ſpringing thereof. Thou giveſt us the former and the latter rain in its ſeaſon, and reſerveſt unto us the appointed weeks of harveſt. Thou crowneſt the year with thy goodneſs.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wiſdom haſt thou made them all. The heavens, and all their hoſts; the earth, and all creatures that dwell upon the face thereof; the ſea, and all that is therein, praiſe thee. All thy works, in all places of thy dominion, praiſe thee: and we thy ſervants deſire, with our whole hearts, to bleſs and magnify thy name.

We offer unto thee our unfeigned thankſgivings for the continual care of thy providence; and, more eſpecially, for our ſafe and quiet repoſe during the paſt night, and for the peaceful and happy circumſtances, in which we appear before thee this morning. We thank thee, that, through thy goodneſs, we ſtill continue to enjoy the comforts and bleſſings of this life, and the means of preparing for the life which is to come. We adore thine unchangeable and everlaſting mercy; and we deſire to manifeſt our thankfulneſs, by devoting ourſelves to thy ſervice, and ſpending the remainder of our days in obedience to thy commands.

May we, at all times, maintain a devout ſenſe of thy perfections; love thee, the giver of all good; be thankful unto thee for thy manifold mercies; and put our whole truſt in thy wiſe and good providence. May our hearts be eſtabliſhed in thy fear and love.

In all the relations of life, may we walk uprightly, and follow after righteouſneſs. May we do unto others, as we would that they ſhould do unto us. May we

be kindly affectioned one towards another; and love, not in name and word only, but in deed and in truth. May we rejoice with them that rejoice, and weep with them that weep. May the law of kindneſs dwell upon our lips; and may we go about doing good.

May we keep our hearts with all diligence; and order our whole converſation according to thy will. May we be free from envy, pride, covetouſneſs, revenge and malice, and from all corrupt affections: may we be adorned with patience, meekneſs, humility, and all chriſtian virtues: and may we bring forth the fruits of righteouſneſs in our lives; that we may be acceptable in thy ſight, and may become partakers of that happineſs, which thou haſt provided for the righteous in the world to come, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not

not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for MONDAY Evening.

O Thou that heareſt prayer, unto thee do we lift up our ſouls.

We worſhip thee, the one living and true GOD; of whom, and through whom, and to whom, are all things. Thou art glorious in power, wonderful in counſel, and excellent in all thy works. Thou art a GOD of truth, and without iniquity. Thou art good, and thou doeſt good continually.

We thank thee, with our whole hearts, for the abundance of thy mercy manifeſted unto us. We bleſs thee, that thou haſt called us into life to bear thine image, and to partake of the bleſſings of thy family. We acknowledge and adore thy loving kindneſs and tender mercy, which have followed us all the days of our lives. In the time of our proſperity, thou haſt

rejoiced over us to do us good: in the day of adverſity, thou haſt heard our prayer, and delivered our ſouls from affliction. Thou haſt given us bread to eat, and raiment to put on: thou haſt granted unto us the comforts and pleaſures of domeſtic life; and haſt filled our houſe with good things. Becauſe thou haſt been our helper and our friend, therefore will we praiſe thee. We thank thee, more eſpecially, for thine unſpeakable love in the gift of thy Son JESUS CHRIST, and for all the ſpiritual bleſſings which we have received through him. We bleſs thee, that thou didſt ſend him into the world, to lead us to the knowledge and worſhip of thee, the only true GOD; to eſtabliſh in our hearts the love of righteouſneſs; and to train us up for everlaſting life. We acknowledge theſe and all thy mercies with unfeigned thankfulneſs, and will praiſe thy name for ever and ever.

Unto thee belong goodneſs and mercy; but unto us ſhame and confuſion of face; for we have ſinned againſt thee. We have diſregarded thine authority, and broken thy laws. We have not duly improved the talents which thou haſt committed unto us.

We

We have been ungrateful to thee, our moſt bountiful benefactor, and beſt friend. We have departed from the path of thy commandments, and expoſed ourſelves to thy righteous diſpleaſure. Our only hope is in thy mercy.

We humbly beſeech thee, who deſireſt not the death of a ſinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedneſs and live, to grant unto us the pardon of all our ſins. And, that we may be proper objects of thy forgiving mercy, we deſire to amend whatever hath been amiſs in our paſt lives, and from our hearts to forgive all thoſe who have injured or offended us. We expect mercy from thee, our heavenly Father, only upon condition that we ſhew mercy to our brethren.

Create in us clean hearts, O GOD; and renew right ſpirits within us. Teach us to abſtain from all appearance of evil, and to maintain a conſcience void of offence, both towards thee and towards all men. Lead us in the way in which we ſhould go; deliver us from every evil word and work; and bring us, at length, to thy heavenly kingdom.

We reſign ourſelves entirely to thy direction, and leave all our intereſts in thy hands, with a humble hope, that thy mercy will never forſake us, and that thou wilt cauſe all things to work together for our good. We chearfully depend upon thy providence for protection through the enſuing night; for the ſupply of our daily wants; and for that ſhare of the good things of life, which thou knoweſt to be beſt for us. We deſire, to receive all thy mercies with thankfulneſs, and to enjoy them with innocence and moderation: we would patiently ſubmit to thy will under all the afflictions of our lives: and we humbly pray, that we may ſo paſs through the changes of this world, as, finally, to be prepared for the enjoyment of perfect and eternal happineſs, in the world to come.

We preſent unto thee, merciful GOD, our united interceſſions, in behalf of our relations and friends. Support ſuch as are advanced in life, under their increaſing infirmities: guide and preſerve ſuch as are young, amidſt the manifold temptations of the world: comfort and relieve ſuch as are labouring under any kind of affliction or diſtreſs: protect ſuch as are travelling

by

by ſea or land; and pour down the abundance of thy mercy upon all our friends, according to their ſeveral neceſſities.

We beſeech thee, the King of nations, to look down with favour upon our native country. Continue unto us our liberties and privileges, and convey them down to the moſt diſtant poſterity. May all our rulers and magiſtrates employ their authority for the public welfare: and may the people of theſe lands lead peaceable and quiet lives, in all godlineſs and honeſty. May the miniſters of religion be endued with the ſpirit of wiſdom and holineſs; that, by their doctrine, they may guide thy people in the way of righteouſneſs; and that, in all things, they may ſhew themſelves patterns of good works. May all who call themſelves chriſtians, depart from iniquity, and order their converſation as becometh the goſpel of CHRIST. May our holy religion extend its beneficial influence throughout the world: and may all men know thy name, and ſerve thee with one conſent, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord and Saviour.

Now unto thee, O GOD, the Father of

of all, be aſcribed everlaſting praiſes. Amen.

Prayer for TUESDAY Morning.

ALMIGHTY and eternal GOD; whoſe power is infinite, whoſe wiſdom is unerring, and whoſe goodneſs is unchangeable and everlaſting; we thy ſervants bow before thee in religious worſhip, and deſire to render unto thee the glory due to thy name.

All things proceed from thee, O GOD; and thou ruleſt by thy power for ever. Thou doeſt whatſoever thou pleaſeſt in the armies of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth. Thy throne is eſtabliſhed of old; thou art from everlaſting. Among the Gods there is none like unto thee; neither are there any works like unto thy works. All nations whom thou haſt made ſhall come and worſhip before thee, and ſhall glorify thy name; for thou art great, and doeſt wondrous things; thou art GOD alone.

With

With all creatures in heaven and earth, we praiſe thee, the greateſt and beſt of all beings; and we offer unto thee our united thanks for all the good things which thou haſt done for us. We acknowledge and adore thy kind providence, which hath continually attended us, from the beginning of our lives unto this day. Thou didſt preſerve us, and provide for us, in the helpleſs ſtate of infancy and childhood: thou haſt guided us through the dangerous paths of youth: thou haſt ſupplied our daily wants; defended us from all danger; and brought us to the preſent moment in peace and ſafety. Through the paſt night, thine eye hath been upon us for good; and we appear before thee, this morning, ſurrounded with the gifts of thy bounty. We rejoice in thy goodneſs, and will give thanks unto thee all the days of our lives.

Accept, O merciful Father, our unfeigned thankſgivings: and teach us to manifeſt the ſincerity of our gratitude, by the conſtant obedience of our lives; that we may, at all times, be happy in thy favour, both in this world, and that which is to come.

May

May we ſpend this day in the faithful diſcharge of the duties of our ſeveral ſtations, and in the innocent enjoyment of the good things of life. May we be in thy fear all the day long; and ſet thee always before us. May we love thee, our father and friend; and keep all thy commandments with our whole hearts.

In the ſeveral relations of domeſtic life, in which thy providence hath placed us, may we behave with fidelity, prudence, and diſcretion, and with undiſſembled goodwill to each other. * [May parents walk before their houſe with perfect hearts, and train up their children in the way in which they ſhould go. May children live in all due ſubjection to their parents, and in love one towards another; and, as they advance in age, may they increaſe in wiſdom and goodneſs, and in favour with GOD and man. May ſervants be obedient unto their maſters, not with eye-ſervice as men-pleaſers, but in ſingleneſs of heart, fearing thee. And may maſters render unto their ſervants that which is juſt

* Thoſe parts of theſe forms of devotion which are marked in this manner [ ] are to be uſed or omitted as circumſtances direct.

juſt and equal; knowing that they alſo have a maſter in heaven, to whom they muſt give an account, and with whom is no reſpect of perſons.] May we all be of one mind; have compaſſion one of another, and love as brethren. May we live together in love and peace; that thou, the GOD of love and peace, mayeſt be with us.

Finally, we pray, that all holy affections may be eſtabliſhed in our hearts, and that our lives may be adorned with all good actions; that, while we live, we may enjoy the teſtimony of a good conſcience, and the hope of thy favour: and that, after death, we may receive an everlaſting reward in the kingdom of heaven; through thine infinite mercy, manifeſted unto us by JESUS CHRIST our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for

thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for TUESDAY Evening.

O Moſt merciful and gracious GOD; we thy ſervants preſent ourſelves before thee, this evening, to render thanks unto thee for all thy mercies; to confeſs our manifold tranſgreſſions; to renew our good reſolutions; and to recommend ourſelves, our friends, and all our fellow creatures, to the care of thy providence.

We offer unto thee our unfeigned thankſgivings for our creation, and for all the powers of our nature. We thank thee for the ſupports and enjoyments of animal life; and for the pleaſures of friendſhip, knowledge and virtue. We bleſs thee for all the opportunities, which thou haſt afforded us, for attaining the higheſt perfection and happineſs of our nature; and, particularly, for the advantages which we enjoy as diſciples of thy Son JESUS CHRIST; for his holy and excellent precepts; for his pure and perfect example;

and

and for the promiſe of thy mercy and of eternal life, which thou haſt given us through him. We praiſe thee, O LORD, for thy goodneſs; and for thy wonderful works to the children of men.

We acknowledge, before thee, who knoweſt the ſecrets of all hearts, that we are not worthy of the mercies which we have received at thy hands. In many things we have all offended. Thou knoweſt our follies, and our ſins are not hidden from thee: we confeſs them with unfeigned ſorrow; we deſire to walk before thee in newneſs of life; and we beſeech thee, who deſpiſeſt not the broken and contrite heart, to pardon all our iniquities. O GOD, be merciful unto us.

Teach us, to diſcern between good and evil; and enable us, in the midſt of the temptations of the world, to hold faſt our integrity, and to perſevere in well doing. May neither the hope of reward, nor the fear of ſuffering, ever lead us to do that which our conſciences would condemn. May our hearts be pure and holy in thy ſight; and may integrity and uprightneſs ever preſerve us.

Our outward circumſtances in life we leave entirely to the diſpoſal of thy providence. We commit ourſelves to thy protection, through the enſuing night, and the remainder of our days; with a ſteadfaſt perſuaſion, that, if it be conſiſtent with thy perfect wiſdom and goodneſs, thou wilt defend us from all evil, and continue unto us the comforts and bleſſings of life. But, whatever thou ſhalt ſee fit to appoint for us, we deſire, at all times, patiently to ſubmit to thy righteous will, and to place our whole confidence in thy goodneſs. Be merciful unto us, O GOD; be merciful unto us; for our hope is in thee. Leave us not, neither forſake us, O thou GOD of our ſalvation; but graciouſly think upon us for good, both now and for ever.

We preſent our humble ſupplications unto thee in behalf of all our relations and friends. Protect them by thy power; guide them by thy wiſdom; and bleſs them with thy favour, both in this world, and that which is to come. Reward the kindneſs of thoſe who have, at any time, done us good: and, if there be any who have deſigned or done us evil, we beſeech thee,

thee, Father of mercies, to forgive them.

May theſe kingdoms of GREAT-BRITAIN and IRELAND be under the continual protection of thy providence: and may all the inhabitants of theſe lands make a wiſe improvement of their privileges, and, with ſincerity and ſingleneſs of heart, ſeek thy glory and the public welfare. May thy ſervant, our Sovereign King GEORGE, long rule over us in wiſdom and righteouſneſs; and, finally, may he obtain everlaſting life and happineſs in thy heavenly kingdom. Bleſs and preſerve our gracious Queen CHARLOTTE, and all the Royal Family. [Direct and proſper the high Court of Parliament, now aſſembled, in all their deliberations for the public good.] May all our judges and magiſtrates truly and impartially miniſter juſtice, for the puniſhment of evil doers, and for the protection of ſuch as do well. May the miniſters of the goſpel, by the faithful diſcharge of their duty, and by the example of a good life, promote the knowledge of thy truth, and the practice of all righteouſneſs.

Enlighten and reform the chriſtian

church; and lead all, who profeſs the religion of JESUS CHRIST, to live ſuitably to their holy profeſſion.

Finally, we pray unto thee in behalf of all our brethren of mankind; beſeeching thee, to give unto all nations, unity, peace and concord; and to grant, that thy name may be known, and thy pure worſhip prevail, throughout the world. Let the people praiſe thee, O GOD; let all the people praiſe thee.

Theſe our humble prayers we preſent unto thee, O GOD of mercy, in the name, and as the diſciples, of JESUS CHRIST our Lord and Saviour.

Now unto him, who is able to do more for us than we can aſk or think, be glory and praiſe for ever. Amen.

Prayer for WEDNESDAY Morning.

O GOD, who trieſt the heart, and haſt pleaſure in uprightneſs; we thy ſervants deſire, at this time, to bow before thee

thee with pure hearts and unfeigned devotion.

We worſhip thee, who filleſt heaven and earth with thy preſence. All things are naked and open before thee; neither is there any creature which is not manifeſt in thy ſight. None can hide themſelves in ſecret places, where thou canſt not ſee them. Thou weigheſt the ſpirits of all the children of men, and conſidereſt all their goings, that thou mayeſt render unto them according to their works. O Lord, thou haſt ſearched us and known us. Thou doſt compaſs our path, and art acquainted with all our ways: there is not a word in our tongues, but thou knoweſt it altogether: thou underſtandeſt our thoughts afar off.

We give thanks unto thee, merciful Father, that thou haſt been continually with us to do us good. Thy mercies, which are more than can be numbered, abundantly manifeſt, that thou art not far from any one of us. Thou haſt upheld our ſouls in life, and made us to dwell in ſafety. Thou haſt been our refuge and ſtrength, a preſent help in trouble. Thou haſt

haſt continually fed and cloathed us; and haſt given us richly all things to enjoy. Thou haſt preſerved us through the paſt night, and brought us ſafely to the beginning of this day. When we lie down to reſt, thou art our defence; and when we awake, we are ſtill with thee.

We rejoice in thy univerſal providence: we thank thee with our whole hearts for all thy mercies; and we deſire, at all times, to live in thy fear, and in all our ways to approve ourſelves unto thee. May the remembrance of thy preſence reſtrain us from all ſecret wickedneſs, in thought, word, or deed, and make us ſteadfaſt in well doing.

May we faithfully obey thy will, in the ſeveral relations in which thy providence hath placed us. May we behave with due reſpect and ſubjection to our ſuperiors and rulers; with kindneſs and humanity to our inferiors; and with uprightneſs and good-will to all men. May we ſhew compaſſion to ſuch as are in diſtreſs: may we be thankful to our benefactors and friends; and may we forgive our enemies. Putting away far from

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us all bitterneſs, and wrath, and evil-ſpeaking, with all malice; may we follow after the things which make for peace, and things whereby one may edify another. At all times, and in every condition, may we abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good. We beſeech thee, the fountain of all wiſdom and ſtrength, to make us perfect in every good work; that we may always do that which is well-pleaſing in thy ſight, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for WEDNESDAY Evening.

ALMIGHTY GOD, and moſt merciful Father, who art the rewarder-

warder of all them that diligently ſeek thee; we thy ſervants deſire, at this time, with one heart and voice, to call upon thy name, and ſhew forth thy praiſe. We will declare thy goodneſs with thankſgiving, and bleſs thee for the multitude of thy tender mercies.

We thank thee, that thou haſt made us in thine own image, and given us knowledge and underſtanding. We praiſe thee, that thou haſt daily ſupplied our wants by thy providence, and continually viſited us with thy favour. We bleſs thee, above all, for thy great and unſpeakable love, manifeſted unto mankind, by ſending thy Son JESUS CHRIST into the world. We thank thee, that thou haſt raiſed him up, to ſave us by turning us from our iniquities; to declare unto us the promiſes of thy forgiving mercy, upon repentance and newneſs of life, and of thy gracious aſſiſtance to help our infirmities; and to fill us with the joyful hope of an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away. All glory and honour, bleſſing and praiſe be unto thee, the Father of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, and the fountain of good, for ever and ever.

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O GOD, who art full of long-ſuffering and forbearance towards the children of men, we acknowledge that we have diſobeyed thy laws, and been unmindful of thy goodneſs. We lament, with unfeigned ſorrow, the errors and faults of our paſt lives: we deſire, with our whole hearts, to forſake every evil way; and we humbly truſt in thy mercy for the forgiveneſs of our ſins. Have mercy upon us, O GOD, according to thy loving kindneſs; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, pardon all our tranſgreſſions.

Cleanſe us, we beſeech thee, from all ſecret faults: keep back thy ſervants alſo from preſumptuous ſins; let them not have dominion over us. Enable us to withſtand the temptations of the world; eſtabliſh our hearts in thy fear; and lead us in the way to life everlaſting.

We lift up our eyes unto thee, from whom alone cometh our help, beſeeching thee to defend us from all evil, this night, and to keep us under the care of thy providence through the remainder of our lives. Preſerve us, O LORD; for

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in thee do we put our truſt. We pray, if it be thy will, that no evil may befal us, nor any calamity enter our dwelling. But, if thou ſhalt ſee fit to afflict us, we deſire patiently to ſubmit to thine appointment; and ſo to improve our afflictions, that they may, at length, work together for our good.

We pray unto thee, who art the confidence of all them that dwell upon the face of the earth, in behalf of all our fellow-creatures: that thou wouldeſt be graciouſly pleaſed, to continue the care of thy providence over them, and to grant, that all nations may acknowledge thee, the true GOD, and JESUS CHRIST, whom thou haſt ſent.

Bleſs theſe kingdoms of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, and all our colonies and provinces. Give us fruitful and healthful ſeaſons: proſper our trade and commerce: continue unto us the bleſſings of wiſe and equal government; and teach all the inhabitants of theſe lands truly to love and fear thee, and faithfully to perform the duties of their ſeveral ſtations. May thy bleſſing deſcend upon our Sove-

reign,

reign, King GEORGE, and upon all the Royal Family. Endue them with all virtue; beſtow upon them all happineſs; and, finally, bring them to thine heavenly kingdom. May all our judges and magiſtrates be juſt, ruling in thy fear: and may all the public teachers of religion ſo faithfully diſcharge the duties of their office, and be ſo eminent for their wiſdom and goodneſs, that they may approve themſelves miniſters of GOD, and may promote the knowledge of thy truth, and the practice of all righteouſneſs.

Look down with mercy upon all our relations and friends, according to their ſeveral neceſſities; particularly upon ſuch as are in any kind of trouble or adverſity; and grant unto them whatſoever thou, in thine infinite wiſdom, ſhalt ſee to be beſt for them.

We offer theſe our prayers unto thee, merciful Father, with a chearful confidence in thine unerring wiſdom and perfect goodneſs. We beſeech thee to overlook the weakneſs and imperfection of our devotions; and, of thy great mercy, to grant us ſuch things as ſhall be good for us,

though we may neglect to pray for them; and to deny us ſuch things as would be hurtful to us, though we ſhould earneſtly deſire them. Order all things for us, as ſeemeth right in thy ſight; and do us good, both now and evermore; according to thy mercy declared unto us by JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Now unto GOD only wiſe be glory for ever. Amen.

Prayer for THURSDAY Morning.

O Almighty GOD! We acknowledge and worſhip thee, the greateſt, the wiſeſt, and the beſt of all beings.

Thou art from everlaſting to everlaſting. With thee there is no variableneſs, nor ſhadow of turning: thy counſel ſtandeth for ever. Known unto thee, O GOD, are all thy works from the beginning of the world: by thee actions are weighed; and thou ſearcheſt all hearts. Thou art the righteous LORD, who loveſt righteouſneſs, and whoſe countenance beholdeth the

the upright. Thou acceptest not the perſons of men, nor regardeſt the rich more than the poor. Thou wilt render unto every man according to his works. Thou art good, and ready to forgive; and thy mercy endureth for ever.

We thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for the multitude of thy tender mercies towards us. Thou haſt brought us into life by thine almighty power; and haſt continually watched over us by thy providence. Thou haſt preſerved us in ſafety, through the paſt night, and granted us the refreſhment of quiet repoſe. Through thy goodneſs, we appear before thee, this morning, in health and eaſe; with the free uſe of our reaſon; and in the enjoyment of the bleſſings of life. What ſhall we render unto thee, O LORD, for all thy benefits?

We deſire to ſhew forth thy praiſe, not only with our lips, but in our lives; and to ſpend this day, and the remainder of our days upon earth, in a chearful obedience to thy holy commands. Incline our hearts unto thy precepts; and quicken us in thy way. Cleanſe us from all

hypocriſy and guile; and endue us with that ſimplicity, and godly ſincerity, which are, above all things, well-pleaſing unto thee. May our hearts be right in thy ſight, that we may, at all times, have a humble confidence in thy mercy: and may we order our whole converſation according to thy will, that, at the laſt, we may receive thine approbation, and become partakers of eternal life.

In all our behaviour towards our fellow-creatures, may we be governed by the laws of juſtice and charity. May we love one another with pure hearts fervently; and may we do good unto all men as we have opportunity. May we ſhew compaſſion to thoſe who are in trouble, and exerciſe forbearance and forgiveneſs towards our enemies: may we recompenſe to no man evil for evil; and may we be merciful, as thou our Father in heaven art merciful.

May we govern our own hearts aright, and take good heed unto our ways. May we keep our tongues from evil, and our lips from ſpeaking guile. May we be adorned with that meek and quiet ſpirit, which

which is in thy ſight of great price. May we not think of our ſelves more highly than we ought to think, but be cloathed with humility. May we direct our affairs with diſcretion; be temperate in all things; and ſhew ourſelves men.

Through all the changes of our lives, may we be without covetouſneſs, and be content with ſuch things as we have. If thou ſhouldeſt ſee fit to bleſs us with proſperity, may we receive the gifts of thy providence with thankful hearts; enjoy them with innocence and ſobriety; and apply them to the relief of ſuch as are in diſtreſs. May we endure the troubles of life with patience and reſignation to thy will; that our afflictions may bring forth in us the fruits of righteouſneſs, and may work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. When thou ſhalt call us out of this world, may we have the remembrance of a life ſpent in thy fear, and a good hope towards thee, to fill our hearts with peace and joy: and, after death, may we be received into thy heavenly kingdom, to dwell with thee, in life everlaſting, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for THURSDAY Evening.

O Merciful and gracious GOD, the fountain of all being and happineſs; we thy ſervants unite to offer unto thee our humble thankſgivings, for all the good things which thou haſt done for the children of men.

We acknowledge the wiſdom and goodneſs, which thou haſt manifeſted in our creation; and will glorify thee with our bodies and ſpirits, which are thine. We adore thy kind providence, which hath brought us to the cloſe of this day in peace and comfort: and we thank thee for all our perſonal and family bleſſings;

for all the enjoyments of ſociety and friendſhip; and for every agreeable and happy circumſtance of our lives. In a more eſpecial manner, we bleſs thee for the kindneſs and love, which thou haſt manifeſted unto us through JESUS CHRIST our Lord. We thank thee, that thou didſt ſend him into the world to ſave us from our ſins, and to lead us, by his holy doctrine and excellent example, to the love and practice of univerſal righteouſneſs; and that, in obedience to thine authority, he gave himſelf up to death, that, being made perfect by ſuffering, he might become the author of eternal ſalvation to all them that obey him.

We rejoice in thine unchangeable and everlaſting goodneſs; and acknowledge our tranſgreſſions before thee, with a humble hope of thy forgiving mercy. We have, in many inſtances, been diſobedient and ungrateful to thee; neglected our duty towards our fellow-creatures; and followed the evil inclinations and deſires of our own hearts. All our offences and faults are manifeſt in thy ſight: we deſire to confeſs them with contrite hearts; and to return unto thee in the way of well-doing.

And

And we beſeech thee, who haſt taught us, that, if the wicked forſake his way, thou wilt have mercy on him, to receive our humble acknowledgments, and to forgive all our ſins. Have compaſſion upon thy ſervants; and forſake not the work of thy hands.

Grant unto us, O merciful Father, the ſpirit of wiſdom and knowledge. Teach us to judge aright concerning thee our Maker, and the duty which thou requireſt of us; and grant that all religious truths may deeply impreſs our hearts, and have a proper influence on our behaviour. Aſſiſt us to mortify every corrupt affection, and to overcome every temptation; that we may manifeſt the ſincerity of our repentance by the ſteadfaſtneſs of our obedience; and that, not being weary of well-doing, we may finally obtain everlaſting life.

O GOD, the protector of all them that put their truſt in thee; we recommend ourſelves and all our concerns to the care of thy providence, this night, and the remaining part of our lives. Withhold not thy tender mercies from us, but

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let thy loving kindneſs continually preſerve us. May we be defended from all the dangers of this night, and enjoy the bleſſing of quiet repoſe: and may we ariſe, in the morning, in health and peace, and ſpend the enſuing day in thy fear. While thou ſhalt ſee fit to continue us in life, may we ſo fulfil the duties of our ſeveral ſtations, that, when thou ſhalt call us out of this world, we may be able to look forward into the world to come, with a joyful hope of immortality. And, when our fleſh and heart ſhall fail, be thou, O GOD, the ſtrength of our hearts, and our portion for ever.

We humbly beſeech thee, gracious Father, to bleſs all our relations and friends, according to their ſeveral circumſtances; and more eſpecially to ſhew compaſſion to ſuch as are in pain and ſickneſs, or in any kind of tribulation.

We pray unto thee, in behalf of our native country; that peace may be within our walls, and proſperity within our cities; and that righteouſneſs, which exalteth a nation, may flouriſh in the midſt of us. Look down with favour upon thy

ſervant

ſervant GEORGE our King: preſerve his health, and prolong his life; make his reign proſperous and happy; and hereafter give him a crown of glory which fadeth not away. Protect and bleſs our gracious Queen CHARLOTTE, and all the Royal Family. [May the high court of Parliament, now aſſembled, in all their conſultations, be under the direction of thy wiſdom, and heartily unite to promote the peace and happineſs of theſe kingdoms.] May all the magiſtrates of the land, and all the miniſters of religion, employ themſelves, in their ſeveral ſtations, for the public welfare.

May all who call themſelves chriſtians be united in the bonds of charity, and with one heart and voice ſerve thee, the Father of our Lord JESUS CHRIST.

Finally, we pray unto thee in behalf of all our brethren of mankind; that all ſuperſtition and idolatry may come to an end; and that pure and undefiled religion may every where prevail.

Graciouſly receive theſe our humble prayers for ourſelves and others, which

we offer unto thee, in the name of JESUS CHRIST our Lord and Saviour; through whom be aſcribed unto thee, the Father Almighty, everlaſting praiſes. Amen.

Prayer for FRIDAY Morning.

O GOD, who haſt made the heavens, and the earth, and who giveſt unto all creatures life, and breath, and all things; we thy ſervants reverence thine infinite perfections, and praiſe thee with our whole hearts.

Great and marvellous are thy works, O LORD GOD Almighty! Thy hands have ſtretched forth the heavens; and thou commandeſt all their hoſts. By thine appointment, the ſun ariſeth, and man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour, until the evening. Thou haſt eſtabliſhed, and doſt continually preſerve the regular ſucceſſion of day and night, ſummer and winter, ſeed time and harveſt. The heavens and the earth remain unto this day, according to thine ordinance; for all things ſerve thee.

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The birds of the air, the fiſhes of the ſea, and the cattle upon a thouſand hills, are thine: thou ſendeſt forth thy ſpirit, they are created; thou reneweſt the face of the earth: thou openeſt thine hand; they are filled with good. The earth is thine, O GOD, and the fulneſs thereof.

The ſons of men are thine offspring. Thou haſt made us, and not we ourſelves: we are thy people, and the children of thy family; we will be thankful unto thee, and bleſs thy name.

We preſent unto thee our united thanks, for the protection of thy providence, which hath continually attended us; more eſpecially, for the ſecure and refreſhing repoſe of the paſt night; for our preſent eaſe and health; and for the proſpect of ſpending this day in peace and comfort. We aſcribe all our enjoyments, and all our hopes, to thy fatherly goodneſs, and tender mercy: we will praiſe and magnify thy name; and love and ſerve thee, all the days of our lives.

We deſire to manifeſt our thankful ſenſe of thy goodneſs, by diligently hearkening unto

unto thy voice, and by doing always that which is right in thy ſight. May no iniquity have dominion over us; but may we be in continual ſubjection to thee, the Father of our ſpirits; living in all good conſcience before thee, and ſerving thee with all humility of mind.

May we imitate thy goodneſs, in all our behaviour towards our fellow creatures. May we be upright in all our dealings: may we be faithful and affectionate towards our friends: may we walk within our houſe with perfect hearts; and, in every relation and condition of our lives, may it be our deſire and delight to do good; that, by the exerciſe of all kind affections, and the performance of all good actions, we may anſwer the end of our being in this preſent life, and be prepared for that world, where love and peace will reign for evermore.

May we maintain a conſtant rule over our own ſpirits; and be gentle, ſhewing meekneſs towards all men: may we learn of him who was meek and lowly of heart, that we may find reſt unto our ſouls. May we take good heed unto our

ways, that we offend not with our tongues. May we ſpeak evil of no man; may no corrupt affections remain in our hearts; and may we be holy in all manner of converſation.

Deliver us, O merciful Father, from the power of ſinful habits; from the ſnares of the wicked, and from the influence of evil examples: and enable us to walk before thee, all our days, in purity of heart and life; that, at length, we may be prepared for an eternal abode in thine heavenly kingdom, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for FRIDAY Evening.

O GOD, the Father of mercies, the GOD of love and of all conſolation, who art good, whoſe mercy is everlaſting, and whoſe truth endureth unto all generations; we thy ſervants unite to preſent unto thee our unfeigned thanks, for all thy goodneſs and loving-kindneſs to the children of men.

We thank thee, that thou haſt created us in thine own image; made us capable of knowledge and wiſdom; endued us with ſocial affections; implanted in our hearts a ſenſe of good and evil; and called us to the fear and love of thee, the greateſt and beſt of all beings. We praiſe thee for our continual ſupport, and for all the comforts of our lives. Thou giveſt us healthful and fruitful ſeaſons, and filleſt our hearts with food and gladneſs. Bleſſed be the LORD, even the GOD of our ſalvation, who daily loadeth us with benefits. Above all, we thank thee, for thy great mercy, in ſending thy well-

beloved Son JESUS CHRIST into the world, to inſtruct us by his excellent doctrine; to guide us by his perfect example; and to fill us with the joyful hope of eternal life. Thou haſt been mindful of us and bleſſed us: thou haſt dealt bountifully with us, and done great things for us. We will bleſs thee at all times; thy praiſe ſhall be continually in our mouths.

We acknowledge before thee, O GOD, who ruleſt the children of men with wiſdom and goodneſs, that we have not duly improved thy manifold mercies. Though thou haſt nouriſhed and brought us up as children, we have ſinned againſt thee. We deſire to forſake all our evil ways, and to return unto thee with our whole hearts: and we humbly beſeech thee, who art ſlow to anger and ready to forgive, that thou wouldeſt pardon all our tranſgreſſions. O LORD, ſhew thy mercy upon us; and grant us thy ſalvation.

Lead us by thy fatherly hand in the path of our duty; and, in the time of temptation, let thy good ſpirit be with us, to keep us from falling. May our minds

minds be purified from all ſinful affections; may falſehood and deceit have no place in our words; and, in all our ways, may we obey thy commandments; that, being holy in thy ſight, we may obtain thy favour, and may, finally, be received into thine everlaſting kingdom.

Take us, merciful Father, under thine almighty protection, through this night, and the remaining part of our lives: prepare us for all the events which may hereafter befal us; and enable us, under all the changes of this world, to hold faſt our integrity, and do that which is right in thy ſight. If, through thy kind providence, we ſpend our days in proſperity, may we beware leſt we forget thee in our abundance: may we not be high minded, nor truſt in uncertain riches, but in thee the living GOD: may we be rich in good works, ready to diſtribute, willing to communicate; laying up in ſtore for ourſelves a good foundation againſt the time to come, that we may lay hold on eternal life. If thou ſhalt ſee fit to viſit us with afflictions, may we bear them with patience and reſignation to thy will; and may they increaſe our compaſſion for

the diſtreſſes of our fellow-creatures, and our care and diligence in preparing for our departure out of this world. Under all the troubles of life, may the conſolations of religion ſuſtain our ſpirits: and, in the hour of death, let thy mighty power ſupport us, and let thy mercy, O GOD, be upon us. Command thy bleſſing upon thy ſervants, even life for evermore.

We pray unto thee, gracious GOD, in behalf of all our friends. Supply their wants out of the ſtores of thy bounty: let thy watchful providence evermore defend them from evil; and let thy goodneſs and mercy follow them all the days of their lives.

We beſeech thee mercifully to regard theſe kingdoms of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND; and to bleſs all orders of men amongſt us. Upon our King, upon his houſe, and upon his throne, may there be peace for ever from the LORD. May all our judges and magiſtrates execute true judgment in the land. May all chriſtian miniſters diſcharge the duties of their ſtation with fidelity; and adorn their profeſſion,

feſſion, by the innocence and uſefulneſs of their lives. May all who profeſs to be followers of CHRIST, walk worthy of the vocation with which they are called, with all lowlineſs and meekneſs; forbearing one another in love; and endeavouring to preſerve the unity of the ſpirit in the bond of peace.

Finally, we pray unto thee, the Father and Friend of mankind, in behalf of all our fellow-creatures. May the earth be full of the knowledge of the LORD. From the riſing of the ſun, to the going down thereof, may thy name be great among the nations. In every place, may prayer be offered unto thee, and pure worſhip: and let thine ear be open to the ſupplications of every ſincere and humble worſhipper of thee, upon the face of the whole earth. Do good unto all ſuch as are upright in heart, according to thine infinite mercy, promiſed unto mankind through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Now to the bleſſed and only Potentate, the King of Kings, and LORD of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in light to which no man can approach; whom no

no man hath ſeen, or can ſee; be honour and power everlaſting. Amen.

Prayer for SATURDAY Morning.

EVER bleſſed and glorious GOD; we worſhip thee, who art exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe, and who liveſt and reigneſt one GOD for ever and ever. Thou art the LORD who changeſt not: thy kingdom is an everlaſting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. Thou art wiſe in heart, and and mighty in ſtrength. Whatſoever thou pleaſeſt that thou doeſt, in the heavens, and in the earth, and in all places. Thou art righteous in all thy ways, and holy in all thy works. Thou exerciſeſt loving kindneſs, judgment, and righteouſneſs in the earth; for in theſe things doſt thou delight. Thy mercy endureth for ever.

We will greatly rejoice in thee, O LORD; our ſouls ſhall be joyful in our GOD. We adore thy wiſdom and goodneſs, which are continually manifeſted in the government of the world; and we bleſs thee for

for every inſtance of thy loving kindneſs to the children of men. Accept, merciful Father, our unfeigned thankſgivings for all our powers of body and mind; for every favourable circumſtance in our birth and education; for the continual care of thy providence; for the ſafe repoſe of the paſt night; for all our opportunities of improving in knowledge and goodneſs; and, above all, for the bleſſed hope of immortality, confirmed unto us by JESUS CHRIST. All theſe bleſſings proceed from thee, the Fountain of good: we will praiſe thee, and not be ſilent; we will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, for ever and ever.

We deſire to teſtify the ſincerity of our gratitude, by the ſteadfaſtneſs and chearfulneſs of our obedience. May we acknowledge thee in all our ways; and may thy fear be in our hearts, that we may not ſin againſt thee. May we, at all times, remember that we are under thine eye, and accountable to thee for all our actions; that we may maintain that integrity of heart, and purity of converſation, which alone can give us confidence towards thee. May we honour and reverence thee, our Fa-

Father and Lord; and put our whole truſt in thee, our beſt and moſt faithful Friend. May we walk in all thy commandments and ordinances blameleſs; and ſerve thee with a perfect heart, and a willing mind.

May our hearts be enlarged with goodwill to mankind; and may we do good, as far as we are able, to all our fellow-creatures. May we be honeſt in our dealings; ſincere in our profeſſions; and ſteadfaſt to our engagements. May we love and eſteem our benefactors and friends; and never forget their kindneſs to us all the days of our lives. If we have enemies, who hate us without cauſe, may we behave towards them with forbearance and meekneſs. May revenge and malice have no place in our hearts; but may the remembrance of our own weakneſs always diſpoſe us to overlook the faults of others. May we not be overcome of evil; but may we overcome evil with good.

May we take heed unto ourſelves, and ponder the path of our feet, that all our ways may be eſtabliſhed. May we not enter into the path of the wicked; nor

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go in the way of evil men; leſt we become partakers of their ſins. May we walk circumſpectly, and keep ourſelves unſpotted from the world: and may we abound in all the fruits of righteouſneſs; that our light may ſo ſhine before men, that they may ſee our good works, and glorify thee our Father in heaven; and that, when we have done thy will on earth, we may receive an inheritance among all them that are ſanctified, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Prayer for SATURDAY Evening.

O GOD, who art nigh unto them that call upon thee, to all who call upon

upon thee in truth; we thy ſervants preſent ourſelves before thee, to acknowledge our dependence upon thy providence, and to render thanks unto thee for all thy mercies.

We thank thee, that thou haſt called us into being, to enjoy the gifts of thy bounty, and to be thy miniſters for good under our fellow-creatures. We praiſe thee for all the powers of our nature, and for all the enjoyments of our lives; more eſpecially, for the ſocial affections which thou haſt implanted within us; for the agreeable relations in which thou haſt placed us; for the opportunities which thou haſt afforded us of doing good; and for all the pleaſures which flow from ſociety and friendſhip. We thank thee, above all, for the ſpiritual bleſſings which thou haſt beſtowed upon us through JESUS CHRIST our Lord; for the knowledge of thy truth; for the promiſe of thy mercy; and for the hope of everlaſting life. Becauſe thy loving kindneſs is great, and thy compaſſions fail not, our lips ſhall praiſe thee. Be thou exalted, O GOD, above the heavens; and praiſed be thy glorious name for ever and ever.

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O merciful Father, who art ſlow to anger, and ready to forgive, and who dwelleſt with him that is of a humble and contrite ſpirit; we deſire to acknowledge our manifold tranſgreſſions with ſorrow of heart, and unfeigned repentance. We have been drawn aſide into folly by our own corrupt affections. We have been led aſtray by the power of evil example. We have ſinned and perverted that which is right, and it profiteth us not. Our conſciences witneſs againſt us. We beſeech thee, who delighteſt in mercy, to grant unto us the pardon of all our ſins; and to enable us to turn from our evil ways, and to bring forth the fruits of righteouſneſs.

May no iniquity remain within us; and may the purity of our hearts be always manifeſted by the innocence of our lives. May we deny ungodlineſs, and worldly luſts, and live ſoberly, righteouſly, and piouſly in this preſent world. Laying aſide all guile and hypocriſy, and renouncing the hidden things of diſhoneſty; may we ſerve thee with ſingleneſs of heart, and have our converſation in the world in ſimplicity and godly ſincerity. At all

times, and in every condition, may we do juſtly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thee.

Through all the changes of this life, may we hold faſt our integrity, and not let it go; that our hearts may not reproach us, ſo long as we live. If, through thy goodneſs, we increaſe in riches, may we remember thee, who giveſt power to get wealth, and ſerve thee with thankfulneſs and gladneſs of heart in the abundance of all things: and, having freely received, may we freely give; miniſtering of our abundance to the neceſſities of our brethren, as good ſtewards of the manifold grace of GOD. If thou ſhalt ſee fit to bring affliction upon us, may we learn wiſdom and righteouſneſs by the things which we ſuffer. Firmly perſwaded that whatever thou art pleaſed to appoint for us is wiſe and good, may we bear every diſappointment, and paſs through every trouble, with a patient and contented mind; and may we, at all times, enjoy ourſelves in peace, under the care of thy providence. May all the events of our lives work together to eſtabliſh us in goodneſs; and may we be ſo conduct-

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ed through this preſent world, that we may, at length, be prepared for the enjoyment of perfect and eternal happineſs, in the world to come.

We thank thee, the great preſerver of men, that thou haſt brought us to the cloſe of another day, and another week, in ſafety and peace; and we chearfully commit ourſelves to thy protection through the enſuing night, and the remaining part of our lives. We beſeech thee to bleſs us, and keep us; to lift up the light of thy countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore.

We pray unto thee, the Father of all, in behalf of our brethren of mankind. May all tyranny and oppreſſion, all idolatry, ſuperſtition and falſe religion, and all bigotry and perſecution come to an end; and may piety, righteouſneſs and charity abound more and more.

May our native country be under the continual care of thy providence; and may all the inhabitants of theſe lands, in their ſeveral ſtations, ſeek thine honour, and the public welfare. May our So-

vereign King GEORGE, and all our inferior rulers and magiſtrates, diſcharge the duties of their office with wiſdom and fidelity; that we may long continue to enjoy the bleſſings of wiſe and equal government. May the miniſters of religion teach thy people the true knowledge of thy will; and walk before them with uprightneſs of heart and life, to the honour of their profeſſion, and the glory of thy name.

Shew compaſſion, we beſeech thee, to all our relations and friends; more eſpecially to ſuch as are in trouble and adverſity. Give health to the ſick, and eaſe to ſuch as are in pain: deliver thoſe who are oppreſſed, and comfort thoſe who mourn: ſupply the wants of the poor; be a father to the fatherleſs, and the GOD of the widow; and do good unto all men, according to thine abundant mercy, manifeſted to the world through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Now unto GOD, the Father of all the families of the earth, be thankſgiving and honour, bleſſing and praiſe, for ever. Amen.

OCCA-

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS,

To be added to the preceding Forms of Devotion, as Circumſtances may require *.

PRAYER FOR A SICK PERSON.

O GOD, who haſt taught us, at all times, and in every condition, to make our requeſts known unto thee; we offer up our humble ſupplications, in behalf of thy ſervant, who is labouring under pain and ſickneſs. Look down upon *him* [*her*,†] with mercy; and let the conſideration of thy fatherly goodneſs ſtrengthen and comfort *his* ſoul, in the time of affliction. We pray, with ſubmiſ-

* Theſe occaſional Forms may properly be introduced, at the end of the morning or evening prayers, immediately before the Lord's prayer, or the concluding addreſs.

† The words his, him, he, &c. printed in Italics, may be changed into her, ſhe, &c. as the occaſion ſhall direct.

ſion to thy wiſe providence, that thou wouldeſt be pleaſed to remove *his* diſorder, and reſtore *him* to health. Graciouſly prolong *his* days upon earth; and grant, that *his* affliction may produce in *him* the fruits of righteouſneſs, to the honour of thy name. By the ſadneſs of *his* countenance may *his* heart be made better; and may *he* long live, to manifeſt *his* thankfulneſs to thee, *his* great Preſerver, and to do good in *his* generation.

[But, if this affliction ſhould be unto death, may thy ſervant be prepared to give *himſelf* up into thy hands, with chriſtian patience and fortitude, in joyful expectation of thy mercy unto eternal life. May the teſtimony of a good conſcience, and the hope of thy favour, ſupport *him* in that awful moment: may *he* leave the world in peace; and, after death, may *he* be received into thy heavenly kingdom, and made a partaker of that happineſs, which eye hath not ſeen, nor ear heard, and which it hath not entered into the heart of man to conceive. Command thy bleſſing upon thy ſervant, O GOD, even life for evermore, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.]

PRAYER

PRAYER
FOR
A SICK CHILD.

O GOD, the Fountain of all mercy; we offer up our humble prayers unto thee, in behalf of a child, on whom thou haſt ſeen fit to lay thine afflicting hand. We beſeech thee, if it be thy will, to remove the diſorder under which *he* [*ſhe*] labours, and to reſtore *him* [*her*] to health and ſtrength. Suffer not the fond wiſhes and hopes of *his* parents to be diſappointed; but, in thy great mercy, ſpare *him* to be the comfort and ſupport of their advancing years, and to be uſeful in the world. But, whatever thou haſt determined concerning *him*, thy will, O GOD, be done. Into thy hands we commit ourſelves, and all our enjoyments: we deſire, at all times, patiently to ſubmit to thine appointment; and we humbly pray that, by all the diſpenſations of thy providence, we may be trained up for that world, where there ſhall be no more ſorrow, pain, or death.

THANKS-

THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY from SICKNESS.

WE render united thankſgivings unto thee, O GOD, who healeſt all our diſeaſes, and redeemeſt our lives from deſtruction, for thy great mercy manifeſted to thy ſervant, whom thou haſt raiſed from the bed of ſickneſs, and reſtored to a capacity of performing the duties, and enjoying the comforts of life. To thy good providence we aſcribe it, that this affliction hath not been unto death; and that the voice of health and rejoicing is again heard in our habitation. We will praiſe thee, O LORD, with our whole hearts; for thou haſt dealt bountifully with us. May thy ſervant, whom thou haſt delivered from death, manifeſt *his* [*her*] ſenſe of thy great goodneſs unto *him*, by devoting the remainder of *his* days to thy ſervice: and may this inſtance of thy mercy engage us all to love thee with our whole hearts, and to keep all thy commandments.

PRAYER

PRAYER

BEFORE a JOURNEY.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Preſerver of men; we recommend thy *ſervant* [*ſervants*] who *is* [*are*] entering upon a journey, to the care of thy good providence; humbly beſeeching thee, to be with *him* in all places whither *he* may go; to defend *him* from all evil; to preſerve *him* from all temptations; to proſper *him* in *his* lawful deſigns; and, in due ſeaſon, to return *him* in ſafety to *his* habitation and friends: that *he* may have a freſh occaſion to praiſe thy name; and that we may long live together, to enjoy the pleaſures of domeſtic life, and to manifeſt our thankfulneſs for all thy mercies.

THANKS-

THANKSGIVING

FOR A SAFE

RETURN from a JOURNEY.

O GOD, who upholdeſt our ſouls in life, and who only makeſt us to dwell in ſafety; we offer unto thee our united thanks for thy great mercy unto thy *ſervant* [*ſervants*] whom thou haſt preſerved in journeying, and brought back to *his* habitation in peace. Thou haſt defended *him* by thy providence from all evil. We rejoice in thy goodneſs, and give thanks unto thee with our whole hearts. May thy *ſervant* manifeſt *his* thankfulneſs to thee, by employing the life which thou haſt preſerved in a diligent obedience to thy commands; and may we all live in dutiful ſubjection to thee our common Parent and Benefactor, and in love one towards another.

PRAYER

PRAYER

FOR

A WOMAN drawing near the time of CHILD-BEARING.

O GOD, who art our refuge and ſtrength, a preſent help in time of trouble, we beſeech thee mercifully to regard thy ſervant, who is drawing near to the time of child-bearing. Take her under thine almighty protection; preſerve her from all diſtreſſing fears; make her the joyful mother of a living child; and, in due ſeaſon, reſtore her to health and ſtrength; that ſhe may long live to be a bleſſing to her family and friends, and to manifeſt her thankfulneſs for thy ſaving mercy.

THANKS-

THANKSGIVING

FOR

A WOMAN after CHILD-BEARING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our moſt gracious Preſerver and bountiful Benefactor; we offer unto thee our united thankſgivings, for thy great goodneſs to thy ſervant, whom thou haſt delivered from the pains and dangers of child-bearing [made the joyful mother of a living child] [and reſtored to health and ſtrength.] Thou haſt been merciful unto thy ſervant, and granted her deliverance in the time of trouble. May her heart be filled with unfeigned thankfulneſs unto thee her great Deliverer; and may ſhe ſpend the remainder of her days in a chearful obedience to thy commandments; that ſhe may, at laſt, be a partaker of eternal glory and happineſs, in the world to come.

THANKS-

THANKSGIVING
FOR
The BIRTH of a CHILD.

WE render thanks unto thee, who art the Author of life, and the Giver of all good things, for the bleſſing which thou haſt been graciouſly pleaſed to beſtow upon this family, by the birth of a child. We receive it as the gift of thy bounty; and we deſire, with chearful hearts, to recommend it to thine almighty protection, and to devote it to thy fear and ſervice. In its infant days, may it be the charge of thy providence, and may its life be precious in thy ſight. May its opening mind be enriched with uſeful knowledge, and adorned with amiable and virtuous diſpoſitions. May its native innocence be preſerved amidſt the ſnares of the world, by the influence of wiſe inſtructions and good examples. May it long live to be happy in itſelf, a comfort to its parents, and uſeful in the world: and, finally, may it be trained up for everlaſting life, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

A PRAYER

To be uſed after the

DEATH of any Perſon in a FAMILY.

ETERNAL GOD, without whoſe direction and providence nothing happeneth to us in life or death; out of the depths of affliction and ſorrow, unto thee do we lift up our ſouls; for our help and our hope are in thee.

Our lives are in thy hands; and all our enjoyments are at thy diſpoſal. Thou didſt at firſt call us into life, by thy mighty power; and, when thou takeſt away our breath, we die, and return to the duſt. Thou changeſt our countenances, and bringeſt us down to the grave. When thou ſpeakeſt the word, we muſt go the way whence we ſhall not return, and the eye of him that hath ſeen us ſhall ſee us no more.

In the midſt of life we are in death: to whom may we ſeek for ſuccour, but unto thee, O LORD, who changeſt not, and

and who haſt been the refuge of the children of men, in all generations. The LORD liveth; let our hearts rejoice; and let the GOD of our ſalvation be for ever exalted. Under all the troubles of this mortal life, thy mercy, which endureth for ever, is our confidence and joy. Firmly perſuaded, that, though clouds and darkneſs are round about thee, righteouſneſs and judgment are the foundation of thy throne; and that thou wilt cauſe all things to work together for good; we deſire to ſubmit to the preſent affliction with patience and reſignation. We feel and we lament our loſs; but we will humble ourſelves under thy mighty hand. Behold thy ſervants, O LORD, do with us whatſoever ſeemeth good in thy ſight. Not our will, but thine be done. The LORD gave; and the LORD hath taken away: bleſſed be the name of the LORD.

We give thee unfeigned thanks for all the conſolations which thou haſt afforded us, under the loſs of our friends, and the fears of our own diſſolution, by the goſpel of thy Son JESUS CHRIST, which hath brought life and immortality to light. We thank thee, that thou haſt taught us

to hope for a ſtate of perfect reſt, and endleſs felicity, beyond the grave; and haſt promiſed unto all thoſe, who perſevere in well doing, glory, honour, and eternal life. In this proſpect our hearts are glad, and our lips rejoice. Thou wilt not leave our ſouls in the grave, nor ſuffer death to have dominion over us: thou wilt ſhew us the path of life; in thy preſence is fulneſs of joy, and at thy right hand are pleaſures for evermore. Bleſſed be the GOD and Father of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, who, according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten us again, by the reſurrection of JESUS CHRIST from the dead, to the lively hope of an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away.

Teach us, O moſt gracious GOD, by the daily inſtances of mortality which are before our eyes, and particularly by the preſent awful event, to ſee how ſhort and uncertain our abode on earth is, and ſo to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wiſdom. May we ſpend the remainder of our time on earth in the faithful diſcharge of our duty; and live in ſuch a manner, as we ſhall wiſh

to have done, when we come to die. Whatſoever our hand findeth to do, may we do it with all our might; ſince there is no work nor device in the grave, whither we are going. Give us grace ſo to follow the good examples of thoſe, who have departed this life in thy faith and fear, that at length we may with them become partakers of everlaſting joy and felicity. May we glorify thee on earth, and finiſh the work which thou haſt given us to do; that, when we ſhall leave this world, we may reſt in peace; and that, being found acceptable in thy ſight, we may be received into thy heavenly kingdom, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

GENERAL PRAYERS,

To be uſed at any time.

FIRST GENERAL PRAYER,

Compiled from the Liturgy of the Church of England.

O LORD GOD Almighty! We praiſe thee; we acknowledge thee to be the LORD. All the earth doth worſhip thee, the Father everlaſting. To thee all angels cry aloud; the heavens and all the powers therein; ſaying, Holy, holy, holy LORD GOD of hoſts. Heaven and earth are full of the majeſty of thy glory. With angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praiſe and magnify thy glorious name: and offer unto thee our ſacrifice of thankſgiving.

We give thee moſt humble and hearty thanks, Father of all mercies, for all thy goodneſs and loving kindneſs to us, and to all men. We bleſs thee for our creation, preſervation, and all the bleſſings of

of this life; but, above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord JESUS CHRIST; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days.

We acknowledge before thee, O Almighty GOD, Father of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, our manifold sins and wickedness, which, we have, from time to time, committed, by thought, word and deed, against thy divine Majesty. We have erred and strayed from thy ways, like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

We beſeech thee, whoſe nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive, that thou wouldeſt graciouſly pardon all our offences. Spare thou them, O GOD, who confeſs their faults; reſtore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promiſes declared unto mankind by JESUS CHRIST. O LORD, ſhew thy mercy upon us; and grant us thy ſalvation.

Create in us new and contrite hearts, that we, truly lamenting our ſins, and acknowledging our unworthineſs, may obtain of thee, the GOD of all mercy, perfect remiſſion and forgiveneſs: and grant, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and ſober life, to the glory of thy holy name.

Deliver us from all blindneſs of mind, hardneſs of heart, and contempt of thy word and commandment; from all covetous deſires, and inordinate love of riches; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocriſy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableneſs. O GOD, make clean our hearts within us; and take not thy holy ſpirit from us.

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We beſeech thee, who haſt taught us that all our doings without charity profit nothing, to pour into our hearts that moſt excellent gift of charity, the bond of peace and of all virtues.

Direct and preſerve us in the way of thy truth, and in obedience to thy commandments; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may ſo paſs through things temporal, that we finally loſe not the things eternal.

[O LORD, our heavenly Father, who haſt ſafely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the ſame by thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no ſin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings be ordered by thy governance, we may do always that which is righteous in thy ſight.]

We beſeech thee, O GOD, whoſe never-failing providence ordereth all things in heaven and earth, to keep us continually under thine almighty protection [and more eſpecially, to defend us by thy great mercy from all perils and dangers of this night.]

night.] Put away from us all hurtful things; and give us thoſe things which ſhall be profitable for us. Mercifully look upon our infirmities, and, for the glory of thy name, turn from us all thoſe evils that we moſt righteouſly have deſerved; and grant that, in all our troubles, we may put our whole truſt and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore ſerve thee in holineſs and pureneſs of living. In all time of our tribulation, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, O LORD, have mercy upon us.

O GOD, the Creator and Preſerver of all mankind; we humbly beſeech thee for all ſorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldeſt be pleaſed to make thy ways known unto them; thy ſaving health unto all nations. More eſpecially we pray for the good eſtate of the chriſtian church; that it may be ſo guided and governed by thy good ſpirit, that all, who profeſs and call themſelves chriſtians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of ſpirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteouſneſs of life.

Mer-

Mercifully regard theſe kingdoms of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, and all the colonies and provinces thereunto belonging. Let truth and juſtice, brotherly kindneſs and charity, with all other virtues, ſo flouriſh among us, that they may be the ſtability of our times, and that thou mayeſt ſtill continue thy favour to us and our poſterity for ever.

Moſt heartily we beſeech thee, the King of Kings, and Lord of lords, with thy favour to behold our moſt gracious Sovereign Lord King GEORGE; and ſo to repleniſh him with the grace of thy holy ſpirit, that he may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way, and that, finally, after this life, he may attain everlaſting joy and felicity.

We humbly beſeech thee to bleſs our gracious Queen CHARLOTTE, their Royal Highneſſes GEORGE Prince of WALES, the Princeſs Dowager of WALES, and all the Royal Family. Endue them with thy holy ſpirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; proſper them with all happineſs; and bring them to thine everlaſting kingdom.

[May

[May it pleaſe thee to direct and proſper the conſultations of the High Court of Parliament, to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy church, and the ſafety, honour and welfare of our Sovereign and his kingdoms; that all things may be ſo ordered and ſettled, by their endeavours, upon the beſt and ſureſt foundations, that peace and happineſs, truth and juſtice, religion and piety, may be eſtabliſhed among us for all generations.]

May it pleaſe thee, to bleſs the magiſtrates of theſe lands, giving them grace to execute juſtice and maintain truth; to illuminate all chriſtian miniſters with the true knowledge and underſtanding of thy word; and to grant that all thy people may hear it with meekneſs, receive it with pure affection, and bring forth the fruits of the ſpirit.

Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodneſs all thoſe who are any ways afflicted or diſtreſſed in mind, body or eſtate; that it may pleaſe thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their ſeveral neceſſities; giving them patience under their

ſufferings, and a happy iſſue out of all their afflictions.

Almighty GOD, the fountain of all wiſdom, who knoweſt our neceſſities before we aſk, and our ignorance in aſking, and who art always more ready to hear than we are to pray; we beſeech thee to have compaſſion upon our infirmities, and to fulfil the deſires and petitions of thy ſervants as may be moſt expedient for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlaſting, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

SECOND GENERAL PRAYER.

O THOU great Parent of the univerſe; from whom all things proceed; on whom all creatures depend; and who art worthy of all poſſible veneration, gratitude, and obedience! We addreſs ourſelves unto thee, at this time, to declare our ſteadfaſt faith in thy being and providence; our joy in thy wiſe and righteous government; our thankfulneſs for thine innumerable mercies; our chearful acquieſcence in thine appointments, and our cordial ſubjection to thine authority. We deſire to employ our nobleſt powers and affections in the worſhip of thee, the greateſt and beſt of all beings; and we truſt that thou, who knoweſt our ignorance and weakneſs, wilt not reject the ſincere homage of upright and humble minds.

We acknowledge and worſhip thee, the Maker and the Lord of all. We revere the power which formed, and which continually upholds the earth, and the heavens, and all worlds. We admire the wiſdom,

which at firſt eſtabliſhed the order of nature, and which conſtantly directs the vaſt concerns of the univerſe. We adore and love the goodneſs, which is manifeſted in all thy works, and which makes all thy creatures happy. We rejoice in the felicity of thy numerous offspring; and, as children of thy family, we unite with all our brethren, to give thanks unto thee, our common Parent, for all thy mercies.

In a more eſpecial manner, we acknowledge, with unfeigned gratitude, the numberleſs bleſſings, which thou haſt beſtowed upon mankind. From thee we have received the gift of life: to thee we are indebted for all our animal, intellectual and moral powers: on thee we continually depend for the preſervation of our being, and for all the happineſs of our lives. The plentiful ſtores which nature provides for our ſupport and defence, and for our convenience and pleaſure, are the fruits of thy bounty. The relations of domeſtic life are thy wiſe and gracious appointment; and all the delights of mutual friendſhip and affection proceed from thy goodneſs. To thy providence

we owe the eſtabliſhment of civil ſociety; the inſtitution of wiſe and ſalutary laws; the progreſs of uſeful knowledge; the advantages of commercial intercourſe; and all the improvements and pleaſures of ſocial life. From thee we derive all our opportunities, of becoming acquainted with ourſelves, and with thee our Maker; and of acquiring the habits, and enjoying the pleaſures, of virtue and piety. To thee we are indebted for the uſeful inſtructions, and good examples, of our parents and friends, and of the wiſe and virtuous in all ages; and for the advantages which we derive from the appointment of public worſhip, and from the chriſtian inſtitution of religion. It is through thine unchangeable and everlaſting mercy, that we are made capable of extending our views and deſires beyond this preſent life, and that we are inſpired with the joyful and animating hope of immortality. All happineſs proceeds from thee: unto thee all praiſe and gratitude are due. For our paſt enjoyments, for our preſent felicity, and for our future hopes, thanks, eternal thanks, be unto thee, the Father of mercies, and the Fountain of all good.

To the care of thy providence, O thou our merciful Parent, our conſtant Benefactor, and our beſt Friend, we commit our ſelves and all our intereſts. Firmly perſuaded, from the general order of nature, and from our own daily experience, that all things are directed by unerring wiſdom and perfect goodneſs; we deſire to baniſh all anxious cares and diſtreſſing fears from our hearts, and to paſs through all the changes of this world with a peaceful and contented mind. Under the conſciouſneſs of our own ignorance and weakneſs, thy providence is our ſupport: and under all our afflictions and troubles, thy goodneſs and mercy are our conſolation and joy. We deſire to receive all the good things of life with thankfulneſs, as the gifts of thy bounty: and patiently to ſubmit to all its calamitous events, as the wiſe and righteous appointments of thy providence. We would enjoy the preſent felicity, whatever it may be, with a chearful heart; and leave the events of futurity to thy direction, with a perfect confidence in thy goodneſs.

While thou ſhalt ſee fit to continue us in life, it is our earneſt deſire, and ſteadfaſt reſolution, to anſwer the ends for which thou haſt brought us into being, and to behave as becomes thy rational offſpring. In the preſence of each other, and before thee, the all-ſeeing and righteous Sovereign of the world, we do, at this time, form the moſt ſerious and deliberate purpoſe, to correct whatever hath been wrong in our paſt temper and conduct; to cultivate, with all care and diligence, the intellectual and moral powers which thou haſt given us; to guard againſt covetouſneſs, pride, anger, malice, envy, uncharitableneſs, and all vicious affections; to abſtain from all irregular indulgence of our appetites and paſſions; to behave with fidelity, prudence, and kindneſs in our domeſtic relations; to obſerve the laws of equity and honour, in all our tranſactions with our brethren; to be diligent in the buſineſs of our ſeveral ſtations; to maintain a grateful ſenſe of the kindneſs of our benefactors and friends; to exerciſe a forgiving temper towards thoſe who have injured or offended us; to ſhew compaſſion, and, as far as we have opportunity, miniſter relief,

to ſuch as are in affliction and diſtreſs; to ſeek the advantage and happineſs of all with whom we are connected; and, finally, to preſerve our integrity, and perſevere in the practice of univerſal righteouſneſs, to the end of our lives.

We appeal unto thee, who knoweſt the ſecret thoughts of our hearts, to witneſs the ſincerity of theſe our good reſolutions. And we truſt, that thou, the almighty Friend and Guardian of the righteous, wilt grant us all needful inſtruction and aſſiſtance in the diſcharge of our duty; and wilt reward our ſincere endeavours to do that which is right and good, with peace in our own minds; with the eſteem of the wiſe and virtuous among our fellow-creatures; with the continual care and bleſſing of thy providence in this life; and with perfect and endleſs felicity in the life which is to come.

We addreſs theſe our united devotions unto thee, O Almighty and Eternal GOD, with a humble hope of thine approbation, and with a chearful reliance on thy mercy. In thine unchangeable perfections, and ſupreme dominion we rejoice

joice; and unto thee, the Father of all, we will aſcribe glory and honour for ever. Amen.

THIRD GENERAL PRAYER.

ALMIGHTY and Eternal GOD! we acknowledge thine infinite perfection and ſupreme dominion; and will unite, with one heart and voice, to ſhew forth thy praiſe.

All things proceed from thee, O GOD; and thy preſence is the life of the world. The whole creation is ſubject to thy controul; and, throughout univerſal nature, thou doeſt whatſoever thou pleaſeſt. The voice of wiſdom ſpeaketh in all thy works; truth and righteouſneſs continually wait before thy throne; goodneſs and mercy enlighten thy countenance for ever. Who is like unto thee, O Lord, in glory? Who in power ſhall contend with the Almighty? haſt thou any equal in wiſdom? or can any in goodneſs be compared to thee?

We

We the creatures of thy power, and the children of thy family, praiſe thee, with our whole hearts, that thou haſt been graciouſly pleaſed to create us in thine own image; haſt made us capable of diſtinguiſhing between good and evil; and haſt placed our chief happineſs in the exerciſe of worthy affections, and the performance of good actions. We bleſs thee, for that watchful providence, which thou haſt continually exerciſed over us; and for the liberality, with which thou haſt provided for us. In all our dangers, thine eye hath been upon us for good; and under every calamity, thou haſt ſtretched forth thy hand for our relief. Thou haſt daily granted us the neceſſary ſupplies for the preſervation of our lives, and given us our meat in due ſeaſon. To thy fatherly goodneſs we are indebted for the pleaſure and happineſs, which we derive from mutual intercourſe and affection; from the purſuit and attainment of knowledge; from the practice of righteouſneſs, and from the exerciſes of devotion.

We preſent unto thee our unfeigned thankſgivings, for all the inſtruction and aſſiſtance

aſſiſtance which thou haſt afforded us, to lead us to the true perfection of our nature. We thank thee for the laws of truth and righteouſneſs, which thou haſt written upon our hearts, and delivered unto us by thy Son JESUS CHRIST; for all the examples of goodneſs which are ſet before us; and for all the motives and encouragements, which thou haſt given us, to perſevere in well-doing.

We adore thy forbearance and long-ſuffering, which are continually exerciſed towards the ſinful children of men: and we praiſe thee, that thou art graciouſly pleaſed to overlook the errors and faults of thoſe, whoſe hearts are upright before thee; and to accept of the ſincerity, inſtead of the perfection of our obedience. As a father pitieth his children, ſo doſt thou pity them that fear thee: thou knoweſt our frame; thou remembereſt that we are duſt.

Above all we thank thee for the encouragement which thou haſt given us to hope, that we ſhall hereafter live for ever, in a ſtate of perfect felicity. Thou haſt

haſt created man to be immortal; and made him to be an image of thine own eternity.

Unto thee, O GOD, our heavenly Father, be aſcribed bleſſing and honour, glory and praiſe, for ever.

We acknowledge before thee, the Father of mercies, the Maker and Judge of all men, that thy goodneſs lays us under indiſpenſable obligations to keep all thy commandments. We reflect with ſhame upon the numerous inſtances, in which we have offended againſt thee. We beſeech thee, who art long-ſuffering and gracious, ſlow to anger, and ready to forgive, that thou wouldeſt pardon all our tranſgreſſions. And, while we ſupplicate the forgiveneſs of our paſt ſins, it is our earneſt deſire and humble prayer, that no temptation may, for the future, prove too powerful for us. May neither the allurements of vice draw us into guilt, nor the difficulties of a virtuous courſe deter us from the practice of our duty. To whatever trials our integrity may be expoſed, may we have wiſdom and reſolution to preſerve it uncor-

rupted

rupted; that we may eſcape the fatal conſequences of vice, and that, having endured temptation, we may receive the crown of eternal life, which thou haſt promiſed unto them that love thee.

We rejoice that thou, the LORD GOD Omnipotent, reigneſt over all; and, with the moſt perfect ſatisfaction, we reſign ourſelves, and all our concerns, to thy direction. With reſpect to the good things of this life, we truſt in thy providence, for that portion of them, which thou ſhalt ſee to be beſt for us. We look up unto thee, the Father of the families of the whole earth, with a chearful confidence in thine impartial goodneſs, and a humble hope, that thou wilt grant us a competent ſhare of that proviſion, which thou haſt made for the ſupport of thine offspring. We deſire, at all times, to perform our duty with diligence and alacrity; and, without lamenting what is paſt, or fearing what is to come, to enjoy the preſent hour with a chearful and thankful heart. We will ſubmit with patience to all the diſappointments and afflictions of life; from a ſteadfaſt perſuaſion, that thou wilt cauſe all things

to work together for good. Yea, though we walk through the valley of the ſhadow of death, we will fear no evil. We truſt that thou, who haſt been our Father and Friend through life, wilt not forſake us in the time of our greateſt need. In health and in ſickneſs, in life and in death, into thy hands, O GOD of mercy, we commend our ſpirits. Conduct us whitherſoever thou wilt; beſtow upon us whatſoever thou pleaſeſt; we will at all times acquieſce in thine appointments, and confide in thy goodneſs; and while we have any being we will ſay, Thy will be done.

We pray unto thee, merciful GOD, in behalf of all our brethren of mankind. May they be freed from all miſtaken and unworthy apprehenſions concerning thy nature and government, and from all ſuperſtition, idolatry, and falſe religion. May the true knowledge and fear of thee be in every heart; and may all mankind unite, to pay thee a pure, rational and acceptable worſhip. And, that the practice of true religion may be promoted, may the goſpel of JESUS CHRIST be more generally received, more perfectly

ly underſtood, and more conſtantly obeyed. May all thoſe who call themſelves chriſtians depart from iniquity, and live ſoberly, righteouſly, and piouſly, in the world.

We beſeech thee to continue thy favour to our native Country, and all the dominions thereunto belonging. Bleſs thy Servant, our Sovereign King GEORGE, and all the Royal Family; all our inferior rulers and magiſtrates; all the miniſters of religion; and all the people of theſe lands. By a diligent and chearful diſcharge of the duties of their ſeveral ſtations, may all orders of men among us contribute their part towards the general welfare. May public virtue prevail; and on this foundation may the public happineſs be eſtabliſhed.

Finally, we preſent unto thee our humble ſupplications in behalf of our relations and friends; beſeeching thee, to keep them under the protection of thy providence; to ſupport them in all their afflictions; to enable them to withſtand the temptations of the world; to eſtabliſh them in all goodneſs; and to train them

up for everlasting life, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

FOURTH GENERAL PRAYER.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who dost appoint unto all thy creatures the bounds of their habitation, and who art the Father of all the families of the earth; we acknowledge our continual dependance upon thee, for our being and all our enjoyments; and we desire, at all times, to maintain a grateful sense of thine innumerable mercies, and to manifest our thankfulness, by the words of our lips, and the actions of our lives.

In

In a more eſpecial manner, we addreſs ourſelves unto thee, at this time, to thank thee, with our whole hearts, for the family-bleſſings, which thou haſt beſtowed upon us. We bleſs thee, the Father of our ſpirits, for the ſocial and friendly diſpoſitions which thou haſt implanted within us; and for all the mutual endearments and pleaſures of natural affection. We adore thy kind providence, which hath placed us in the relations of domeſtic life, and called us to partake of its comforts. We thank thee, for that ſhare of health and eaſe which we have enjoyed; for the plentiful proviſion with which our table hath been ſupplied; for the raiment with which we have been cloathed, and the habitation in which we dwell; for the ſucceſs which hath attended us in the buſineſs of our ſtation; [for every addition which thou haſt been graciouſly pleaſed to make to our family;] and for every thing which hath contributed to our ſupport and happineſs. We praiſe thee, that when thou haſt ſuffered afflictions to enter our dwelling, thou haſt not left us deſtitute of comfort; but in the midſt of judgment, haſt remembered mercy. We render thanks

unto thee, who art the author of peace, and lover of concord, for the harmony, affection, and happineſs which ſubſiſt among us; and for the opportunities, which each of us, in our reſpective ſtations, have enjoyed, of promoting our common felicity. And, finally, we bleſs thee, for the advantages, which our domeſtic relations afford us, for eſtabliſhing benevolent and virtuous affections in our hearts, and for cultivating the principles and enjoying the pleaſures, of religion.

Thou haſt been continually with us; and haſt rejoiced over us to do us good. Having daily united to partake of the bleſſings of thy providence, we do, at this time, with one heart and voice, unite to give thanks unto thee for all thy mercies.

Encouraged by our paſt experience of thy goodneſs, we chearfully refer ourſelves, and all our concerns, to the direction of thy providence. While thou ſhalt ſee it to be beſt for us, we truſt that thou wilt defend us from ſickneſs, and pain, and all afflictive events, and wilt preſerve us in the peaceful enjoyment

ment of the bleſſings of domeſtic life; and we deſire to partake of the gifts of thy bounty, with innocent chearfulneſs of heart, with unfeigned joy in each other's proſperity, and with ſincere thankfulneſs to thee, the Giver of all good. But if, by thine infinite wiſdom, we be called to ſuffer affliction, in mind, body, or outward eſtate; we would patiently ſubmit to thine appointments; and, as far as we are able, lighten each other's burdens, by mutual offices of kindneſs and compaſſion.

In our ſeveral domeſtic relations, we deſire to perform our duty with diligence and fidelity. [May thoſe, whom thou haſt placed at the head of this family, be patterns of piety, benevolence, induſtry, temperance, humility, meekneſs, and every virtue, to thoſe with whom they are connected; and, by the influence of uſeful inſtruction, and good example, may they guard their offspring againſt the ſnares of vice, and train them up in the way in which they ſhould go. May the children of this family be dutiful and affectionate towards their parents, and live in peace and love one with another. May they

ſeek

ſeek after uſeful knowledge with diligence; and receive the inſtructions and counſels of their teachers and friends, with humility and thankfulneſs. May their hearts be free from malice and revenge, and their tongues from falſehood and deceit. May they remember the kindneſs of their benefactors and friends, and never forget it all the days of their lives. May they ſhew compaſſion to the poor and afflicted, and take delight in doing good. And, as they advance in years, may they increaſe in wiſdom and virtue; that they may be happy, both in this life and that which is to come. May thoſe who ſerve in this family, be ſo upright and diligent in the diſcharge of their duty, that they may approve themſelves faithful ſervants of thee, the moſt high GOD.]

May we all love one another with pure hearts fervently; that we may be, at all times, ready to every good work. May we chearfully bear our ſeveral parts in the concerns of life; and heartily unite our endeavours to promote each other's happineſs. May pride and envy, diſcontent and fretfulneſs, ſuſpicion and jealouſy,

jealouſy, anger and ſtrife, and all unſocial and unfriendly paſſions, be put away far from us. May we bear with each other's infirmities; and reprove each other in the ſpirit of meekneſs. May all amiable and generous affections rule in our hearts; and may a deſire of ſerving and pleaſing each other appear in all our actions. May our habitation be the ſeat of friendſhip and love: may innocence and virtue make their abode with us: and may the voice of religious joy and gratitude be continually heard amongſt us: that, while we live, we may experience, how good and pleaſant it is, for brethren to dwell together in unity; and that, when the painful moment of ſeparation ſhall arrive, we may be prepared to dwell for ever in the regions of endleſs peace and joy, through thine infinite mercy, declared unto us by JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

Now unto thee, O GOD, the Father of all, be aſcribed everlaſting praiſes. Amen.

THE END.

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